

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AS-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07  
NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 PM-04 NSC-05  
SS-15 /052 W

-----121631 290756Z /13

R 290635Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1705

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, JA, RP

SUBJECT: JAPANESE CHOLERA OUTBREAK STRAINS GOP-GOJ RELATIONS

REF: MANILA 9783 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: JAPANESE PRESS ACCOUNTS CHARGING THAT PHILIPPINES IS SOURCE OF RECENT CHOLERA OUTBREAK IN ARIDA CITY, JAPAN, HAVE RESULTED IN SUBSTANTIAL ANTI-JAPANESE CAMPAIGN IN PHILIPPINE PRESS. HIGHLIGHTS ARE CHARGES OF RUDE BEHAVIOR OF JAPANESE TOURISTS AND ALLEGED "INDIGNITIES" SUFFERED BY FILIPINA BEAUTY QUEEN IN JAPAN. CHOLERA CONTROVERSY MAY HAVE DISSIPATED WHAT-EVER GOODWILL CREATED BY RECENT MARCOS STATE VISIT AND REVEALS EASE WITH WHICH ANTI-JAPANESE SENTIMENTS CAN RESURFACE IN PHILIPPINES. END SUMMARY.

2. ALL MANILA DAILIES CONTINUE TO CARRY FRONT-PAGE STORIES AND EDITORIALS ON CHOLERA CASES AND TOURIST BAN. FILIPINO COLUMINISTS HAVE ATTACKED JAPANESE ABUSES OF PHILIPPINE HOSPITALITY.

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USUALLY MODERATE JESUS BIGORNIA (BULLETIN TODAY) DEVOTED ENTIRE JUNE 25TH COLUMN TO ACCOUNT OF PHYSICAL ATTACK AGAINST FILIPINO WAITER BY JAPANESE TOURIST. DOROY VALENCIA (DAILY EXPRESS) JUNE 26 NOTED, "THE JAPANESE ARE WORSE THAN THE AMERICANS. THEY ATTRIBUTE THEIR UGLY REALITIES TO THEIR NEIGHBORS. THE CHOLERA EPIDEMIC IS IN JAPAN, NOT IN THE PHILIPPINES...WE SHOULD BE QUARANTINING JAPANESE. AT LEAST THE AMERICANS ADMIT

THEY'RE OFTEN AS BAD AS THE PEOPLE THEY CRITICIZE. THE JAPANESE, NEVER."

3. ACCORDING TO JUNE 24 PRESS, PHILIPPINE EMBASSY TOURISM ATTACHE IN TOKYO REPORTED DEPARTMENT STORY TURN-AWAYS OF FILIPINO TOURISTS AND EMBASSY PERSONNEL. PRESS ALSO NOTED RECOMMENDATION BY JAPANESE MINISTER OF HEALTH TO STOP ALL TOURIST FLOW TO MANILA. IRRESPONSIBILITY OF JAPAN'S "FREE PRESS" LIKENED TO THAT OF WESTERN PRESS. "IT ALLOWS GROSS INACCURACIES AND INSINUATES THAT EVERYTHING GOOD IS JAPANESE AND JAPAN IS PARADISE," ACCORDING TO VALENCIA, JUNE 28. COLUMNIST ALSO QUESTIONS WHETHER ASEAN COUNTRIES WILL CONTINUE TO TOLERATE THIS ATTITUDE.

4. COINCIDENTALLY, PINKY ALBERTO, WINNER OF BINIBINING PILIPINAS BEAUTY PAGEANT, RETURNED TO MANILA ON JUNE 24 OUTRAGED AT BEING SUBJECTED TO "INDIGNITIES" WHILE A CONTESTANT IN THE MISS INTERNATIONAL BEAUTY PAGEANT. MISS ALBERTO ALLEGED SHE "WAS REQUIRED TO PERFORM ACTS SHE CONSIDERED CHEAP AND SEXY INSTEAD OF FRIENDLY," AND RESIGNED FROM THE CONTEST IN PROTEST. THEN, AFTER REPORTEDLY BEING PERSUADED BY THE PHILIPPINE EMBASSY TO REJOIN IF HER REQUIRED CHANGES WERE MADE, SHE WAS NOT ALLOWED BY THE SPONSORS TO REJOIN THE CONTEST.

5. COMMENT: CHOLERA CONTROVERSY SUGGESTS EVANESCENCE OF WHAT-  
EVER GOODWILL GENERATED BY MARCOSES' RECENT STATE VISIT TO  
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JAPAN. OLD HOSTILITIES HAVE SURFACED RAPIDLY WITH LOCAL PRESS VITRIOLIC IN ITS ANTI-JAPAN THEME. ALTHOUGH FILIPINO NATIONAL PRIDE IMPORTANT, OF MOST IMMEDIATE SIGNIFICANCE IS ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF LOSS OF NEEDED TOURIST REVENUES. PREVIOUSLY MARCOS HAS PRIDED HIMSELF ON TAKING STATESMAN'S ROLE VIS A VIS JAPAN DURING ASEAN DELIBERATIONS. RECENT EVENTS, HOWEVER, COULD CONCEIVABLY INCLINE HIM TO REINFORCE HIS COLLEAGUES' FEARS AND SUSPICIONS OF NIPPON. PERHAPS IN ANTICIPATION OF SUCH ADVERSE REACTION JAPANESE EMBASSY REVEALED JUNE 28 TO EMBASSY THAT OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FORTHCOMING (JUNE 30) THAT CHOLERA EPIDEMIC OVER.  
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## Message Attributes

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